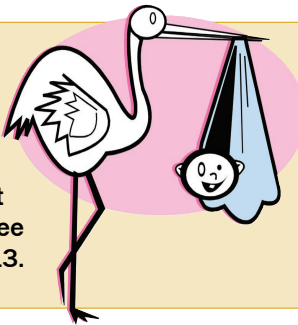


## Inside

**MPs head to Afghanistan**  
Families and friends bid goodbye to members of the 92nd MP Company in Baumholder. See page 10.



**Operation Iron Stork**  
Baumholder braces for Europe's biggest baby shower. See page 13.



**DoDDS sports**  
High school athletes excel on tracks and fields. See page 27 for a photographic look.



# Herald Union



Vol. XII, No. 13

Serving the military communities of the 104th Area Support Group

April 14, 2005

## New POV rules

### Seven main changes for owners

The rules for registering and driving private vehicles in Germany were updated March 9.

"The changes make life easier for Americans driving in Germany without skimping on safety," said Tom Lorenzini, registrar at the U.S. Forces Vehicle Registry in Mannheim.

The seven main changes affecting U.S. privately owned vehicle owners in Germany are:

POVs less than six years old will be inspected and regis-

tered every two years in line with German procedures instead of annually. POVs seven years or older will still be inspected and registered annually.

The five-day temporary plate periods were changed to a single 30-day period eliminating additional trips to the registration office for registration extensions to fix minor repairs.

Army ASG and appropriate

See POV on page 3

### Civilian Enterprise contract

## Newspaper has new printer

The *Herald Union* has a new look this issue.

With a new printer and Civilian Enterprise publisher, the newspaper will now feature more color, a slightly smaller page format, more up-to-date news and an expanded classified advertising section.

While the newspaper remains a biweekly, it will no

longer be inserted into the Stars and Stripes on Tuesdays; the entire print run will now be distributed on Thursdays starting today, April 14, and every two weeks hereafter.

For information about purchasing commercial or classified advertising space call the CE publisher, AdvantiPro, at civ (0631) 3033 5599/31.



Photo by Sgt. Kristopher Joseph

## Training together in Israel

Spc. Michaelyn Crosby, a medic 5-7th ADA, treats Spc. Anton Katzan, a medic in the Israeli Air Force, at an aid station on an Israeli air base March 31. The battalion was in Israel for Juniper Cobra 2005. See page 20 for more photos.



Photo by Ulrike Raab

Spc. Joshua Starkel greets his wife, Serina, and daughter during a welcome home ceremony for members of the 127th Military Police Company April 2.

## Home, sweet home

### 127th MPs return from Iraq

By Karl Weisel

104th Area Support Group  
Public Affairs Office

Candles lined the walkway between the 127th Military Police Company Headquarters and Fliegerhorst Fitness Center on Fliegerhorst Kaserne April 2. The gym was decorated with welcome home signs and balloons, members of the USO were ready with refreshments, families waited anxiously — the only thing missing were members of the unit on their way home from Iraq via Ramstein Airbase to communities in Baumholder, Darmstadt and Wiesbaden.

As the sun set behind the 709th MP Battalion Headquarters painting the sky in dark reds and purples, a siren was heard in the distance and word quickly spread — the

buses were on their way with an MP escort. Family members waved flags and glimpsed friends and loved ones through bus windows. Then travel-weary MPs headed to the armory to stow weapons and other gear before marching through the row of candles to join the waiting families. The year-long deployment for Soldiers of the 127th MP Co. that started in April 2004 was finally over.

"You have every right to be proud of what you've accomplished," said Lt. Col. John Garrity, 709th MP Battalion commander, in welcoming home the company. "Each of you has sacrificed a whole year of your life for the cause of freedom. You have seen horrific conditions in a country ravaged by war and you have demonstrated to the Iraqi

people that the United States Army is committed to their success as a free nation.

"For the rest of your lives you will know that you helped the people of Iraq vote in free elections laying future accomplishments," he said.

"Your service came at a great cost. Each of you has spent a year away from your families. You also carry with you the scars of war," Garrity said.

"Your company has also paid in blood," he said asking all those in attendance to pause to remember Spc. Thai Vue, killed in action on June 18, 2004, and 1st Lt. Tim Price, killed in action on Sept. 7, 2004.

"We also must remember all of our wounded warriors who also paid in blood — so people they do not know could

**See MPs return home on page 4**



# Commentary

## From the IG

### Moving Soldiers costs dollars

By Maj. Alfred A. Acenas  
104th Area Support Group inspector general

Picture this: a Soldier has been directed by his chain of command to move from one barracks building to another, relying only on other Soldiers in the unit to assist him in moving his personal belongings. During the move his brand new plasma television gets damaged. The Soldier attempts to file a claim at the nearby legal assistance office. Unfortunately he will not be reimbursed for damages because the move was not sanctioned by the local transportation office, which could have coordinated for a contractor to assist in the Soldier's move.

At any given time a unit would move single or unaccompanied Soldiers from one location to another to enhance the command and control of its troops. Oftentimes however some units would execute such moves without the proper coordination and authority.

Commanders need to be aware that moving a Soldier generates entitlements that cannot be waived by the Soldier nor ignored by the chain of command. Regulations governing the movement of Soldiers include Title 37, United States Code Pay and Allowances for the Uniformed Services; the Joint Federal Travel Regulation; and Army Regulation 614-30 (Overseas Service). All of the said regulations are available online.

Section 406 of Title 37 USC states that any Soldier "who is ordered to make a change of permanent station is entitled to transportation in kind, reimbursement therefore, or a monetary allowance in place of the cost of transportation." In addition Section U5355 (Local Short Distance Moves) of the JFTR explains in detail what a Soldier is entitled to when he or she is command directed to move to another location. And paragraph 4-2 (Low-Cost Move Policy) of AR 614-30 states that a "low-cost move is a PCS for which the total expected cost, including per diem travel, unaccompanied baggage, household goods and dislocation allowance, does not exceed \$1,000. The Soldier cannot waive entitlement benefits if authorized by the JFTR."

Such policies should not in any way discourage the chain of command from moving Soldiers. Rather they protect the commander and the Soldier against claims made against the government if ever property becomes damaged during a move. Any unit moving a Soldier from one location to another should first check with the local transportation office to coordinate the appropriate entitlements.

## Our children, our future

### Everyone plays a role in preventing child abuse, neglect

By Lt. Col. Christopher C. Franks  
221st Base Support Battalion commander

The Army has made child abuse prevention a priority for many years. The mission is to prevent child abuse in all its forms.

Prevention of child abuse and neglect is everyone's responsibility, and can only be successful when it is diligently pursued. Our children are our future.

April 2005 is Army Child Abuse Prevention Month; this year's theme is "Protecting All our Children, All the Time."

Children from birth to 18 years of age are protected by federal and state laws against abuse and neglect. These laws, along with military regulations, apply equally to infants and adolescents and to children with and without disabilities. In other words, All our Children, All the Time.

Knowledge, individual commitment and our collective sense of community are tools required to enhance the safety and well-being of our families. Each and every one of us must take a role in prevention. In this crucial issue no one is an innocent bystander.

To be safe from abuse and neglect, our children need everyday heroes. Their first heroes are, or should be, their birth parents; beyond that we also depend on grandparents and other family members. And, as they get older, we depend on neighbors, caregivers, teachers, coaches and youth program leaders.

In the 221st BSB (and throughout the 104th Area Support Group) we have many resources to protect and support children, teens and their families. Call the Family Advocacy Program if you have concerns

about a child or a family and want to help.

Be an everyday hero. Simply encourage and allow your Soldiers to attend family classes on Thursday afternoons or during duty hours in April 2005 and throughout the year. Army Community, Social Work Services, the New Parent Support and Education Program and other community agencies offer interesting, challenging and rewarding classes on parenting, stress management, anger management, communication, problem resolution, financial management, relocation and numerous other areas.

These classes are considered to be preventive, in that they teach ways to reduce the stresses of our lives so that we do not take those stresses out on those we care about.

If you are concerned about a family that seems under stress, point them toward one of these agencies or programs.

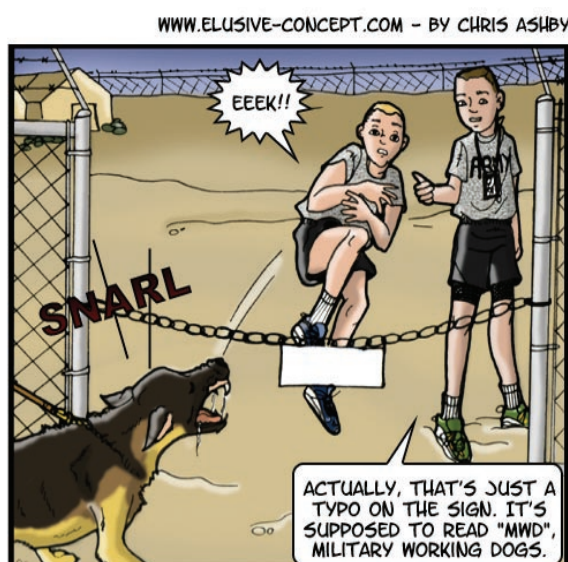
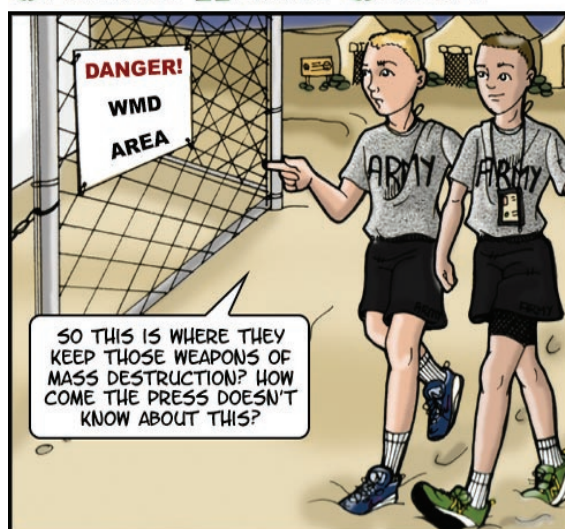
You may see signs in the work environment such as a drop in duty performance, forgetfulness, a preoccupation with things outside of work, marital or family problems, financial problems, health problems or other issues that indicate something may not be going well at home.

Let the Soldier know it is a sign of strength to seek out help with life stressors, and let them have the time to attend the needed classes or sessions. Commanders can also assist in the prevention of child abuse and neglect by providing family advocacy training and other classes to their Soldiers.

The ACS Family Advocacy Program will gladly come and present your requested preventive trainings and classes to your Soldiers at your unit. Give them a call.



### OPERATION ELUSIVE CONCEPT



### Herald Union masthead

The *Herald Union* is an authorized unofficial Army newspaper published under the provisions of AR 360-1 for members of the 104th Area Support Group. Contents are not necessarily the official views of, nor endorsed by, the U.S. government or the Department of Defense. The editorial content is the responsibility of the 104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office. No payment will be made for contributions. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. This is a biweekly publication printed by AdvantiPro. Our office is in Building 1205 on Hanau's Yorkhof Kaserne. Circulation is 10,600 copies. For commercial advertising rates call Susanne Hepp at civ (0631) 3033 5599; classifieds call Adam Barclay at civ (0631) 3033 5531. Address: 104th ASG, Herald Union, Unit 20194, APO AE 09165-0001; Telephone: mil 323-3257; civ (06181) 180-3257; Fax: civ (06181) 14029; Email: [hesherald@104asgexch.hanau.army.mil](mailto:hesherald@104asgexch.hanau.army.mil); Home page: [www.104thasg.hanau.army.mil](http://www.104thasg.hanau.army.mil).

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284th BSB Reporter.....Alexandra Williams (mil 343-6597)  
414th BSB Reporter.....Vacant (mil 322-1600)



# News and features

## News flash

### Summer Hire program

This year's Summer Hire program will run from June 27 to Aug. 5. Family members can apply online at [www.chra.eur.army.mil](http://www.chra.eur.army.mil) through May 13.

### Friendship Fest

The city of Mainz throws a German-American Friendship Fest on Gutenberg-Platz and Ludwigsstrasse April 17 from noon to 7 p.m. The event will feature a concert by the U.S. Army Europe Soldiers Chorus at noon and 12:40 p.m., a grand opening by Mayor Jens Beutel and U.S. Consul Peter W. Bodde at 12:30 p.m., square dancing at 3:05 p.m., live country and western music at 4:10 p.m., show tunes at 5 p.m., refreshments for sale and lots more.

### Enlist online

Young men and women interested in joining the Army can now begin the application process online. The U.S. Army Recruiting Command's "Army Career Explorer" allows applicants to become more familiar with the Army from the comfort of their homes and learn about jobs they for which they may qualify. They can take as much time as necessary and will be able to enter and exit the program as often as desired before submitting information. To find out more about Army Career Explorer or to create an account log on to [www.goarmy.com](http://www.goarmy.com) and click on "Overview" in the right-hand column under Army Career Explorer. (U.S. Army Recruiting Command)

### Newspaper corrections

Apologies to Lt. Col. Diana Ruzicka, chief nurse at the Hanau Health Clinic, whose name was misspelled in a story on the new health clinic commander, and bantam basketball champ Zefen Riggins whose name was not included in a story about the Hanau bantams winning the 104th Area Support Group championship last issue.

### Free Mother's Day messages

Stars and Stripes newspaper will accept free Mother's Day messages online for publication on the web May 6. To send a free message visit [www.Stripes.com](http://www.Stripes.com) and click on "Mother's Day." (Stars and Stripes Release)

## Electronic medical records

### Health clinics introduce DoD's Composite Health Care System II

By Charles Ward

Heidelberg Hospital Public Affairs Office

The electronic medical record is on the way, and in just a few years paper health records will be a thing of the past.

The Büdingen, Butzbach, Friedberg, and Hanau health clinics are implementing the Composite Health Care System II, a software interface linking medical providers to computerized records for immediate and complete information on all patients.

CHCS II, a Department of Defense program, is currently undergoing fielding at military installations worldwide.

The clinics began training with the new software database in March and should be completed this week.

A UNISYS Corporation-led CHCS II New Project Management Team from Reston, Va. provides the day-to-day classroom instruction and hands-on supervision. The phased implementation is taking place throughout Europe at several medical facilities simultaneously, but the Hessen clinics were the first small clinics to implement in Germany.

"The training was very informative," said Dawn Jones, a clinical staff nurse with the Women's Health Clinic in Hanau. "I am a fast learner, and I am good with computers. You need to be. It's coming together."

But there are drawbacks as the implementation begins.

"There is a growth process," said Maj. Diana Ruzicka, chief nurse at the Hanau Clinic. "We have to build templates and it is a challenge building

them or creating and implementing things like a checkout process." Templates are used to provide standard formats for certain types of patient visits. Nearly everyone on the clinics' staffs is in agreement that things are just slow now due to the "getting-used-to-it" period.

"In class we got a lot of material in a very short period of time," said Jones. "I would not now be able to use CHCS II if they (the UNISYS fielding team members who stay with the clinic to perform the one-on-one assistance) were not here to initially assist. You can sometimes forget what you learn in the training, but the trainers get us through it."

Slowdowns for appointments are programmed into the clinics' scheduling to permit the staffs needed time to get familiar with CHCS II. For now, fewer appointments will be scheduled, and each appointment will last longer. The change will continue through April and early May with an expected gradual return to standard patient visit times in early summer.

"There is a steep learning curve for our staff, and this has been the case at all of our clinics," said Col. David Krieger, Heidelberg Hospital commander and regional supervisor for all four of the Hessen clinics. "But it gets better rapidly."

Dr. Jeffrey Grow, a physician at the Hanau Clinic, was part of CHCS I



Photo by Charles Ward

Dr. Jeffrey Grow and Maj. Diana Ruzicka work with the Combined Health Care System at the Hanau Heal Clinic.

fielding in Wiesbaden in 1996. He draws comparisons between the two, stating that the older system "was not as simple as using CHCS II. There are some pretty essential differences. Now, from one day to the next, I have stopped writing doctor's notes (for the paper medical records). It is working out a lot better than I thought. This is a powerful instrument for recording information. And the big advantage is that we'll be able to see consults from the U.S., Landstuhl, wherever."

"As a doctor, we are completely dependent on information," said Grow. "This is a much better way to do the documentation. And the previous (paper) medical record was limited in space. Not now."

The goals of the conversion are minimal disruption while still providing the ongoing health care and learning the new system as fast as possible.

According to Fred Barney, an instructor with the UNISYS fielding team, CHCS II will be implemented in Germany clinics for dental records this time next year.

## POV

Continued from page 1

ate USAFE commanders may issue a temporary driver's license to incoming personnel for the first 30 days to facilitate in-processing. This eliminates the need for a separate letter by the ASG commander and provides a standard temporary driver's license already recognized by German authorities.

Successful completion of the Motorcycle Safety Foundation course is required before a motorcycle license can be issued.

The driver testing procedures were changed by combining the international road sign test and the written

test into one 100-question test (25 international road signs and 75 written questions).

The driver study manual (AE Pamphlet 190-34) was rewritten to provide the study material in a way that corresponds to the new "Driving in Germany" video to reinforce training and evaluation procedures.

Breath/blood equivalency conversions were added so commanders and police personnel can easily understand the differences between German and U.S. breath testing machine results.

USAREUR Regulation 190-1, USNAVEUR Instruction 11240.6P or

USAFE Instruction 31-202, Registering and Operating Privately Owned Motor Vehicles in Germany, prescribes policy and procedures for licensing POV drivers and registering POVs in Germany under the Supplementary Agreement to the NATO Status of Forces Agreement. Members of the U.S. Forces (Army, Air Force and Navy) and the civilian component (including family members) who are assigned or employed in Germany and who are authorized a U.S. Forces Certificate of License and POV registration privileges are covered by this regulation. (Courtesy of IMA-E Public Affairs)



# News and features



Photo by Karl Weisel

Families and friends cheer as buses come in sight at Fliegerhorst Kaserne. Photo right: Staff Sgt. Fineson Trueblood II is welcomed home in Baumholder.



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

## MPs return home . . . . .

**Continued from page 1**

live free," he said. "It is good to have our warriors home safe and know that every one of them will continue to receive the very best medical care in the world."

"I thank you for your exceptional service and your professionalism. You have become a part of history and our nation will always be thankful for your service. Finally thank you to all of the

families which supported you during this deployment. You have made a huge difference and sacrificed much in the cause of freedom," said Garrity.

"You guys are awesome. Enjoy your well-deserved time with your families. Be safe as you transition from combat arms to peace. Tonight you will sleep in your own beds. You will travel on roads that are not laced with IEDs. And many

of you will soon travel to the greatest country in the world — our United States of America.

"God bless you and welcome home Warriors," Garrity said as turned over proceedings to company commander Kevin Hanrahan who quickly dismissed his Soldiers so that they could finally trade in the heat of an Iraqi sun for the loving arms and warmth of home.

**For actions near Baghdad**

## First OIF Medal of Honor awarded

President George W. Bush honored Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith by presenting his family the Medal of Honor on April 4, the second anniversary of his courageous actions during the Battle of Baghdad Airport.

Smith is the first to receive the military's highest award for actions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In action near the Baghdad Airport on April 4, 2003, Smith, a Soldier in Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion, working with units of the 3rd Infantry Division, was tasked to build a compound to hold enemy prisoners, when his small force came under attack by more than 100 enemies.

Smith threw two grenades and fired rocket launchers at the enemy before manning a .50-caliber machine gun on an M-113 Armored Personnel Carrier to protect his troops. While engaging an enemy attacking from three sides, Smith fired more than 300 rounds from the machinegun before being killed.

He prevented the enemy from overtaking his unit's position, protected his Task Force's flank, and defended the lives of more than 100 Soldiers, ac-



Photo courtesy of ARNEWS

**Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith's family received the first Medal of Honor awarded in Operation Iraqi Freedom for his actions near Baghdad.**

cording to his award citation.

Smith was serving as a platoon sergeant in Bravo Company, 11th Engineer Battalion, Task Force 2-7, 3rd Infantry Division. He had been serving in the Army since October 1989.

"He was an exceptional Soldier, and I don't say that lightly," said Capt.

Brian Borkowski, Smith's platoon leader in the 11th Engineers, adding that he was the complete professional.

"He was the best leader that any Soldier could ask for to work under," said Sgt. Thomas Robbins, a member of Smith's unit. *(Courtesy of the Army News Service)*

## News flash

### WIC-O jobs available

Choctaw Management Service Enterprise seeks nutritionists/dietitians/nurses for its Hanau Women, Infants, Children-Overseas Office. Jobs require a BS in nutrition, dietetics, nursing or home economics; experience in prenatal, maternal or infant nutrition; must have driver's license. Jobs are full and part time. Send resume, cover letter and copy of applicable licenses to [Kimberly.spano@ramstein.af.mil](mailto:Kimberly.spano@ramstein.af.mil), fax to civ (06371) 47-9383 or drop off at the Hanau WIC-O Office.

### Visa applications online

German citizens requiring a visa to visit the United States can speed the application process by completing an online visa application form in German or English and printing the form out to take to their visa interview at the appropriate U.S. consulate. All information entered online is contained in a barcode — printed on the last page of the completed application form — that can be scanned into the consulate's visa issuance system instead of being manually entered. The English-language forms can be accessed at [www.usembassy.de/germany/visa/visa\\_forms.html](http://www.usembassy.de/germany/visa/visa_forms.html) and German forms at [www.us-botschaft.de/germany-ger/visa/formulare.html](http://www.us-botschaft.de/germany-ger/visa/formulare.html). *(U.S. Consulate Release)*

### Chemical Ball

Members of the Army Chemical Corps are invited to attend the European Chemical Corps Ball, hosted by the V Corps Chemical Office, at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg June 3 from 6 p.m. to midnight. Cost is \$25 per person for Soldiers in pay grades E-7 and below, \$30 per person for those in grade E-8 and above. RSVP by May 15 to Maj. Augustin McLamb at mil 370-5189, civ (06221) 575 189 or by email to [mclamb@us.army.mil](mailto:mclamb@us.army.mil). *(V Corps Public Affairs)*

### Holocaust awareness trip

The 104th Area Support Group, 3rd Corps Support Command and 16th Corps Support Group sponsor a trip to the Auschwitz Memorial Museum in Poland May 5-8. The trip costs €299 and includes transportation; accommodations; guided tours and more. Deadline to pay is April 29. Call Sgt. 1st Class Gayden at mil 323-2012 or Sgt. 1st Class Sanders at mil 323-2998.

## Good grades = store discounts, freebies

**By Cassandra Kardeke**  
*221st Base Support Battalion  
Public Affairs Office*

Through an Army and Air Force Exchange Service program, students have yet another incentive to keep their grades up.

With the “You Made the Grade” program, students in first through twelfth grade can receive a variety of discounts, free stuff, food coupons and even qualify to win savings bonds worth up to \$5,000.

“It’s a great program to keep kids motivated, especially since they can receive discounts on name-brand clothing, video

games and quite a bit of free stuff,” said Frank Niccoll, AAFES general manager at Mainz-Kastel.

But even free stuff comes at a price — the price of at least a 3.0 on the report card. Students attending Department of

change privileges.

“Youths can take their report card to the customer service counter at the main exchange to receive a coupon book,” said Niccoll.

Students who are too young to have an ID card must have a

parent present to receive their books. Each book contains several

form for a quarterly drawing of savings bonds.

“We give three savings bonds per quarter worldwide,” said AAFES spokesperson, Debbie Byerly.

Students who submit the entry form enter to win \$2,000, \$3,000 or \$5,000 in savings bonds. A Wiesbaden Middle

School student was awarded a \$2,000 savings bond in 2001. With a 3.0 grade point average, students can enter the drawing up to four times during the school year.

For more information on the You Made the Grade Program stop by your local main exchange.

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***“It’s a great program to keep kids motivated, especially since they can receive discounts on name-brand clothing, video games and quite a bit of free stuff.” — Frank Niccoll, AAFES manager***

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Defense Dependents Schools, local national or private schools or are home-schooled are eligible to participate as long as they have a valid U.S. identification card and have post ex-

changes on clothing and footwear such as Nautica, Nike and Adidas; \$5 off any Playstation, Nintendo or X-box games, free meals and candy or snack items and an entry